

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the present Application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-4 (canceled)

Claims 5 (withdrawn)

Claim 6 (canceled)

Claims 7-19 (withdrawn)

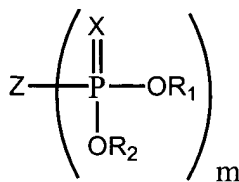
Claim 20 (currently amended): A battery comprising:

an anode;

a cathode; and

an electrolyte having conductivity greater than about 10^{-3} S/cm at ambient temperature and which includes a compound that chemically interferes with flame propagation;

wherein the compound that chemically interferes with flame propagation comprises a compound having the general structure:



wherein X is oxygen;

wherein R₁ is a C₁ to C₁₂ alkyl moiety that is terminally substituted with zero to three halogen atoms;

wherein R_2 is a C_1 to C_{12} alkyl moiety that is terminally substituted with zero to three halogen atoms;

wherein Z is an oxy derivative of an aryl moiety;

wherein m is an integer from 1 to 4; and

~~The battery of claim 4 wherein the compound that chemically interferes with flame propagation is selected from the group consisting of: diethyl(2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methylphenyl)phosphate; diethylphosphorosuccinimide; diethylphenylthiophosphate; and benzene-1,4-bis-diethylphosphate; triethanolamino-tris-diethylphosphate; diethyl N-succinimidylphosphate; N,N'-bis(diethylphosphoro)imidazolidone; diethyl 3-pyridylphosphate; diethylphosphorodiphenylamidate; ethylphosphorodi-N-succinimide; 1,4-bis(diethylphosphoro)benzene; and dimethyl-bis(diethylmethylphosphonatoxy)silane.~~

Claim 21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (withdrawn)

Claim 23 (canceled)

Claim 24-33 (withdrawn)

Claim 34 (currently amended): A method for producing a thermal runaway inhibitor comprising the steps of:

providing a first starting material comprising ~~selected from the group consisting of 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methylphenol; phenol; triethanolamine; N-hydroxysuccinimide; 2-imidazolidone; 3-hydroxypyridine; diphenylamine; and succinimide;~~

~~mixing the starting material with a sufficient amount of an organic solvent in~~
which the starting material is essentially soluble to form a solution;

mixing the solution with a base to form a first reaction mixture;

adjusting the temperature of the first reaction mixture to produce a first chemical reaction;

adding a second starting material comprising a selected from the group consisting of dialkylhalophosphate, dialkyl(chloromethyl)phosphonate, dialkylhalothiophosphate, and diarylhalophosphate to the first reaction mixture to form a second reaction mixture;

adjusting the temperature of the second reaction mixture to produce a second chemical reaction;

removing the organic solvent to produce a thermal runaway inhibitor

wherein the thermal runaway inhibitor is diethyl(2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methylphenyl)phosphate.

Claims 35-38 (withdrawn)

Claims 39-40 (canceled).